

VZCZCXRO6231  
RR RUEHFL RUEHKW RUEHLA RUEHROV RUEHSR  
DE RUEHLO #1001/01 0991205  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
R 081205Z APR 08  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8185  
INFO RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 LONDON 001001

SIPDIS

NOFORN  
SIPDIS

STATE FOR EUR/WE

EO 12958 DECL: 03/25/2018  
TAGS PREL, PGOV, PTER, EAID, ECON, UK  
SUBJECT: A COLLECTIVE YAWN GREETES HMG'S FIRST NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY  
REF: A. LONDON 825 B. EMBASSY LONDON DAILY REPORT - APRIL 3 (NOTAL) C. EMBASSY LONDON DAILY REPORT- MARCH 20 (NOTAL) D. STATE 33008 (NOTAL)

Classified By: Political Minister-Counselor Maura Connelly for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

1. (C/NF) Summary. Criticism and indifference from British political leaders, foreign policy analysts, and media greeted the publication of HM  
Released with Fanfare  
-----

2. (SBU) Given a high profile launch on the floor of the House of Commons March 19 by Prime Minister Brown himself, the NSS, subtitled "Securi  
But Greeted with Disdain  
-----

3. (SBU) Although one media commentator speculated that the inclusion of issues like preventing a repeat of the floods that struck the UK last  
LONDON 00001001 002 OF 003

4. (U) Opposition political leaders were willing to praise the Brown Government's effort to develop a security strategy, but echoed the charge

5. (SBU) A March 20 roundtable discussion on the NSS, hosted by King's College London, captured well the reaction of UK foreign policy comment  
SIPDIS justice," argued that it was possible to "extract some strategic guidelines" from the text. Reid welcomed the NSS as an attempt to think  
Off the National Front Page Quickly  
-----

6. (SBU) The NSS gained little media traction and was off the front pages within a day of its release. It has thus far produced little op-ed c  
Whitehall's Response  
-----

7. (C/NF) The indifferent political and media reaction was matched by that of the Whitehall ministries at which the NSS was directed. An FCO c  
LONDON 00001001 003 OF 003  
the Cabinet Office drafters of the NSS was ignored or rejected, which accordingly produced little sense of buy-in for the document from Whiteha

8. (C/NF) Shortly after the NSS' public release, a senior staffer in the Foreign Secretary's office told Poloff that the ideas and themes in t  
No Action Yet on Specific Recommendations  
-----

9. (C/NF) According to a member of the Cabinet Office unit responsible for drafting the NSS no action has been taken yet on the NSS' specific  
Comment  
-----

10. (C/NF) The NSS was a major initiative of the Brown Government, which established a specific unit in the Cabinet office to oversee the draf  
Visit London's Classified Website: <http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/london/index.cfm> Tuttle